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POSTOFFICE

NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

HARDY AND ANNUAL FLOWERING PLANTS

GARDENS

STILLWATER ROAD,
ST. PAUL, MINN.

TELEPHONE
TOWER 4424



Rock Gardens

96 Plants Suitable
for the Rockery

1932

Our Rock Gardens

ROCK GARDENING is a useful, pleasing and fascinating variation from the ordinary type of gardening and is, today, very popular. It offers unlimited opportunities for testing the skill of the professional and amateur gardener. Some rock garden plants are very easy to grow, while others are very exacting in their requirements and it may take us several years to learn how to be successful with them. All rock gardens are more or less artificial and there are nearly as many ideas of what a rock garden should be as there are gardeners. Many of the gardens being made today fail to accomplish the true purpose of a rock garden, the furnishing of a comfortable home for a plant taken out of its natural environment. A rock garden is not a place to display a pile of pretty stones.

Essentials for the construction of a rock garden may be given but no hard and fast rules can be laid down, which will apply to every condition. There is a vast difference between making a rock garden covering a few square feet and one covering several acres; or between one situated on a hillside or one on level ground; and whether you want to spend little or much money.

It should be remembered that many of the rock garden plants can be grown successfully in the ordinary garden; and if for any reason it would be undesirable to build a rock garden in your yard; you may still enjoy rock garden plants. I like this statement by A. J. Macself: "Let us be content to grow alpine (rock) plants for the enjoyment of their beauty and charm, and when we make a rockery let it be with no delusion that we are making a mountain."

ESSENTIALS FOR A ROCK GARDEN.

A rock or alpine plant is generally one that naturally grows on a mountain and this is the type of environment that we are endeavoring to imitate when building a rockery. Three factors are absolutely essential for a successful rock garden: 1. Good drainage; 2. An open sunny situation, away from trees that would permit water to drip on the plants; 3. A free circulation of air, but not a wind swept place. A few varieties of alpine plants also require an abundance of water under ground but few people care to go to the expense of constructing a moraine.

LOCATION—Taking all things into consideration a hill sloping toward the north would be the ideal situation for a rock garden, affording ample drainage, light and air. On level ground two methods are possible, the building of an irregularly shaped mound, the height depending upon the size of the garden and other surroundings, or an excavation may be made and the rockery built in it. The soil taken out may be thrown up on the sides to help make the excavation larger. Be sure that there is a means for carrying away all surplus water if the latter method is adopted.

When possible the rock garden should be kept away from the formal garden because in a sense it is a wild garden. It should never be placed in the front yard.

It is seldom that a building makes a good background for a rockery, nor is it desirable, as a rule, to place it around or amongst trees. However the chief function of a rock garden is to give pleasure to its owner, and this may often be accomplished regardless of whether all the technical details are carried out. I know of a rockery built next to a house and in shade, which gives its owners a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction although they are limited to the use of a few kinds of plants that will grow in such a trying situation.

ROCKS—The purpose of the rocks in a rockery is to provide a suitable home for the type of alpine plant we desire to grow. The rocks tend to keep the roots of the plant cool and free from excess moisture. They may also serve to keep excess moisture from accumulating around the crown of the plant during the winter and rainy weather.

Rocks of a porous nature such as limestone or sandstone (if not too soft) are preferable as they tend to hold moisture and give it off gradually. Granite, marble and our ordinary cobble stones are non-porous and are not recommended, although they may be used if no other kinds are available.

The rocks selected for your rock garden should vary in size. If only one size were chosen it would give a monotonous effect. The size of the rocks will depend upon the size of your garden. Some of our landscape artists say that no rock under fifty pounds in weight should be selected but I do not believe this to be true in all cases. However, we must avoid getting too many stones in our rockeries. Every stone must have a purpose.

CONSTRUCTION—If the situation chosen for our rockery is a hill side we will not need to provide any artificial drainage, but when the ground is level and the soil heavy it will be necessary to place some stones and gravel in the bottom of the mound.

In placing the stones start at the bottom and gradually work upward, avoiding any set form or regularity of placement. In a large garden provide for necessary paths and plan for convenience in caring for your plants. Every rock should be set firm, and tilted backwards. Place the stones in a flat position and never so that they look like a lot of dogs' teeth set in the ground. As a rule bury each stone about one third its size. We want our rockery to appear as having been established a long time. To avoid getting too many stones in your garden have every stone used for a definite purpose, to hold earth in place, to form a pocket or crevice. The spaces left for planting should vary in size. For rapid growing plants as Phlox subulata and some of the sedums we need larger spaces than we do for plants like Armeria Lauchiana. Do not stop the work abruptly at the edge of the rock garden but set a few rocks here and there around the garden to give a more natural appearance. A pool and running water in connection with a rockery adds beauty and interest but is not essential.

The newly made rock garden should be allowed to stand a week or more before planting to permit the ground to settle. The fall is the best season in which to build a rockery.

PLANTING AND CARE—Very hardy early blooming plants having a tap root, like the Alyssums are best planted in the fall, but in general spring planting is preferable in our severe climate. This permits the plants to become well established before fall. To get variation arrange to have rather large masses of some varieties and, have a few tall growing plants as Verbasicum or Yucca.

After care of the rock garden consists of keeping the weeds down, a little cultivation, removing of dead leaves and flowers, and the cutting back of plants after blooming to prevent a straggling growth. It is often desirable to place a layer of crushed stone around the crowns of plants which resent an excess of moisture. During an excessively dry period it may be desirable to give the garden an occasional good watering.

About Our Lower Prices and Carriage Charges Prepaid

In general we have reduced the prices of all our Perennials, in many cases as much as TWENTY PERCENT. All orders over two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) will be DELIVERED at the prices quoted. On smaller orders we ask you to add 20 to 30 cents to cover cost of packing and postage.

ON ALL CASH AND CARRY ORDERS AMOUNTING TO TWO DOLLARS OR MORE WE WILL ALLOW A SPECIAL DISCOUNT of FIVE PERCENT.

All orders are received subject to crop being unsold and losses beyond our control.

TWO SIZES OF PLANTS.

All plants listed at 20 cents or more each are blooming size, many of them being two years old. Baby plants and small plants are young seedlings or cuttings started this year in the greenhouse or divisions of clumps. Many of them will bloom this season but it is impossible for us to give a guarantee that the plants sold by us will bloom this year.

PERENNIAL PLANTS FOR THE ROCKERY

AGROSTEMMA CORONARIA (Rose of Heaven)—Silvery foliage, blood red flowers. June and July. With us it grows about one foot high. *Clump, each 20 cents; small plants 2 for 25 cents.*

ALYSSUMS—Any good garden soil. Flowers of all varieties yellow. 1 foot. Best planted in groups of three.

Argenteum—Shrubby growth, leaves dark green above, silvery beneath. Flowers small, all summer. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Rostratum—Similar to *Argenteum*. *Each 20 cents.*

Saxatile Compactum (Basket of Gold)—Long grayish leaves. Bright yellow flowers early in spring. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Saxatile Sulphureum—Similar to above but pale yellow flowers. *Each 20 cents.*

ANCHUSA MYOSOTIDIFLORA—12 inches. May-June. A dwarf form of Anchusa bearing many small blue flowers resembling forget-me-nots. *Each 20 cents.*

AQUILEGIA COERULA (Rocky Mountain Blue Columbine)—*Clumps, each 30 cents.*

For other varieties see our general perennial circular.

ARABIS ALPINA (White Rock-Cress)—Early spring. Pure white flowers in dense masses. Leaves slightly grayish. Cut back after flowering. *Each 20 cents.*

ARENARIA MONTANA (Sandwort)—Close tufts covered with white flowers early in season. *Each 20 cents.*

ARMERIA LAUCHEANA (Sea Pink)—A tufted plant with grass like leaves, bright rosy flowers all summer. Plant in full sun. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

ASTER ALPINA (Aster)—6-8 inches. May-June. Flowers white. Plant in full sun. *Each 20 cents.* Seedlings not transplanted, *each 10 cents.*

BELLIS (English Daisy)—Giant flowered. Suitable for shady places. Small plants. *Doz. 30 cents.*

CAMPANULA (Bellflower)—Varieties listed bloom all summer. Will succeed in ordinary rich soil. Divide the clumps every two years.

Carpathica (Carpathian Harebell)—Flowers blue or white. 2 year plants. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Turbinata—A selection of the above. Large clump. *Each 30 cents.*

Rotundifolia (Bluebells of Scotland)—2 year plants. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

CATANANCHE CAERULEA (Love Plant)—Aug.-Sept. Deep blue flowers, similar to single Asters. Flowers crisp to touch like everlastings. *Clumps, each 20 cents.*

DIANTHUS (Hardy Garden Pinks)—

Caesius—A low green compact hardy pink. Medium sized pink flowers. Foliage blue-gray. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Plumarius—The regular hardy garden pink. Mixed colors. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Cyclops (Clove Pinks)—Mostly red. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Deltoides (Maiden Pink)—Dark green foliage. Flowers bright pink. More dwarf than above varieties. *Clumps, each 25 cents. Smaller plants, each 15 cents.*

Knaphi—Small yellow blossoms on slender stems. *Each 25 cents.*

DELPHINIUM (Chinese)—Dark blue. Cut off the first main flowering shoot so as to keep the plant low. 2 year plants, *each 25 cents.* Small plants, *will bloom this season, 2 for 25 cents.*

EUPHORBIA POLYCHROMA (Milkwort)—1-2 ft. May. During the blooming period the top leaves turn yellow. An interesting and uncommon plant. Perfectly hardy with us. *Each 25 cents and 35 cents.*

GYPSOPHILA REPENS (Creeping Baby's Breath)—A beautiful trailing plant for the rockery. Small white flowers. July-August. *Each 20 cents.*



HEUCHERA (Coral Bells)—1½ ft. A cluster of heart shaped leaves from which arise slender stems bearing many deep pink bell shaped flowers. *Each 25 cents.*

IBERIS GIBRALTARICA (Candytuft)—Flowers lilac. A good edging plant. Not always hardy with us. *Each 20 cents.*

LILLIUM TENUFOLIUM—A small lily about 18 inches high. Flowers bright scarlet. *Each 25 cents. Small plants, each 15 cents.*

LYCHNIS ALPINA—Flowers rose. Leaves narrow in a cluster. 2 year plants. *Each 20 cents.*

LYSIMACHIA NUMMULARIA (Creeping Jenny or Moneywort)—Flowers yellow. A rapid grower. Will grow in shade and wet places. *Each 20 cents; small plants 2 for 25 cents.*

MYOSOTIS (Forget-Me-Not)—A plant suitable for shady and semi-shady places. Must have water if grown in a dry situation. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

PAPAVER NUDICAULE (Iceland Poppy)—A short lived perennial. Very fine for its bright flowers. Orange, yellow or mixed. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

PHLOX SUBULATA (Creeping Phlox)—A rapid growing plant suitable for large masses. Colors: Pink, white or lilac. *Each 20 cents. Small plants 2 for 25 cents.*

Fairy-lilac—Plants not as large as the regular lilac variety. *Each 20 cts.*
Vivid—Bright pink. An excellent variety. *Each 25 cents.*

PHLOX DIVARICATA—A native early blooming species of phlox. Flowers lilac. Also suitable for carpeting tulip beds. *Each 20 cents.*

PHLOX AMOENA—A dwarf phlox having small pink flowers. *Each 20 cents; small plants 2 for 25 cents.*

PYRETHRUM ROSEUM (Painted or Persian Daisy)—A spring flowering daisy, leaves finely cut. Mixed shades of pink and white. *Each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

Atrosanguineum—Mostly red shades. *Each 20 cents.*

SAPONARIA OCYMOIDES (Soapwort)—A splendid plant for the rockery or edging for the border. Comes into flower just after the Creeping Phlox. Blossoms pink. 2 year plants, *each 20 cents; 3 for 55 cents.*

SEDUM—Sedums are the principle rock garden plants in America. They vary greatly in height, color and type of foliage. Most of them prefer a sunny situation. Much confusion exists in the names of sedums and it is best whenever possible to see the sedums you are buying.

1. *Acre* (Golden Moss)—One of the commonest sedums in cultivation. Thrives best in poor soil.
2. *Album*—A rapidly growing prostrate sedum. White flowers.
3. *Cristata*—Similar to *Reflexum*. Top of branch forms a crest similar to a cockscomb.
4. *Ewersii*—A thick, large smooth leaved variety. Leaves gray. Flowers pink. Sept. to Oct.
5. *Glaucum*—A low growing compact blue green sedum. Rather slow growers.
6. *Ibericum*—Similar to *Stolonifera*. Flowers pink.
7. *Kamschaticum*—Leaves green. Flowers yellow.
8. *Lydium*—A low growing compact sedum. Light green with touch of red at tip of stems.
9. *Reflexum*—Reminds one of the small spruce branches. Foliage green.
10. *Sarmentosum*—A rapid growing, creeping sedum. Foliage yellow green.
11. *Sexangular*—The plant we have under this name is a light green, long slender leaves.
12. *Spurium*—Similar to *Stolonifera* in shape of leaf and growth. Leaves turn red in fall. Flowers reddish.
13. *Stolonifera*—One of the most desirable sedums. Leaves green, round. Flowers pinkish purple.

Prices of all the above dwarf sedums; *large plants each 20 cents small plants 2 for 25 cents.*

TALL SEDUMS—

Spectabile—An erect growing species. Thick leaves. Flowers rose colored in fall. *Each 20 cents.*

Spectabile varigata—Leaves green and white. *Small plants* each 15 cents.
Maximowiczii—Foliage dark green. Flowers yellow. 1 foot. *Small plants*,
2 for 25 cents.

THALICTRUM ADIANTIFOLIUM—A hardy Thalictrum with leaves similar to maidenhair fern. Flowers white. In the rock garden flowering stem should be removed. *Each 25 cents.*

THYMUS SERPYLLUM COCCINEUM—Dwarf creeping perennials with crimson flowers. Each 20 cents.

VERONICA TEUCRIUM—A dwarf, spreading Veronica. Flowers blue.
Each 20 cents and 15 cents.

VIOLA (Jersey Gem)—Dark blue. *Each 20 cents*

VIOLA (Blue Perfection)—*Each 5 cents*

YUCCA GLAUCUM (Adam's Needle)—A plant with sword like leaves.
4 year old plants each 40 cents and 60 cents.-

BABY PLANTS

Besides the above we are growing the following varieties of perennials for the rockery. They are young or baby plants having been started from seed this spring in the greenhouse. They are in small pots, and some, if not all will bloom this season, however, we cannot guarantee that they will bloom this season.

1. ARABIS ALPINA ROSEA—Pink Rock Cress.
2. AUBRIETIA DELTOIDES—Purple Rock Cress.
3. AUBRIETIA EYRI—Rosy lilac.
4. CALAMINTHA ALPINA (Calamint)—Rich purple flowers.
5. CERASTIUM TOMENTOSUM (Snow in summer)—Foliage gray.
Many white flowers in June.
6. DIANTHUS (Spring Beauty)—Double, mixed colors.
7. EDELWEISS ALPINA—Silvery leaves. White flowers.
8. ERYSIMUM PULCHELLUM—Rock wall flower. Sulphur yellow flowers.
9. GEUM (Mrs. Bradshaw)—Flowers scarlet.
10. INULA ENSIFOLIA—Flowers yellow.
11. NEPETA MUSSINI (Catmint)—Foliage aromatic. Flowers lavender.
Suitable for massing.
12. SILENE SCHAFTA (Catchfly)—Masses of bright pink flowers in late summer and fall.
13. THYMUS SERPYLLUM COCCINEUM—A prostrate creeping perennial suitable for carpeting. Flowers crimson.
14. TUNICA SAXIFRAGA—A plant with slender leaves and small pink flowers.
15. VERONICA AMTHYSTINA—About 10 inches tall. Spikes of blue flowers in June or July.

Prices of any of the above baby plants, *each 15 cents; 2 for 25 cents.*

Some Special Collections

(Our Selection)

COLLECTION NO. 2—10 varieties of Sedums, large plants, our selection, \$1.50.

COLLECTION NO. 3—20 baby plants (10 varieties) our selection, all labeled, \$2.00.

COLLECTION NO. 4—20 baby plants, our selection, all different; all labeled, \$2.15.

NO. 3-25 regular 20 cent plants, at least all labeled \$4.00

ANNUALS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

